

# The Student Voice

The Official Paper of Worcester State College

Thursday March 12, 2009

## *The First Amendment Issue*

### WSC's Financial Decision You Weren't Supposed to Know About

Expose

**Laura Losi**

Staff Writer

**Jacqueline Morrill**

Editor-in-Chief

In the summer of 2008 President Ashley approved a 15% raise to four of the administrators of WSC, totaling an estimated \$20,000 per person.

Following President Ashley's financial decisions, the Board of Higher Education then approved an additional 4% to the rest of the non-unit professionals (NUPS, non-faculty members).

The total amount of raises given is over \$135,000, none of which was awarded to the faculty, who have not acquired raises since the expiration of their contract in 2008.

The NUPS and President Ashley have been allotted these raises through campus money. The faculty, those intellectuals who spend their days teaching students, negotiate through the state.

Previously faculty pay increases were a combination of campus and state money, but now since the Council of Presidents refused to contribute any campus funds to secure the faculty contract, negotiations have stalled.

#### Is this ethical?

According to faculty Union president Dr. Anne Falke, and the secretary Dr. Dan Shartin some state colleges did not disperse these funds, citing the failing economy and the lack of a faculty contract.

In an interview, President Ashley and the Vice President of Fiscal Affairs, Kathleen Eichelroth, stated that this was not the case, claiming that only 1 college president did not distribute the raise.

As of publication, staff members could not conclusively prove the accuracy of either statement.

#### Why the discrepancies?

Faculty members of WSC are not upset about the loss of their potential raises, but rather, the fact that this financial policy was passed without discussion, and subsequently, the inevitable miscommunications that occurred.

#### Where did the extra money come from?

When interviewed, President Ashley justified her actions by citing specific projects that NUPS have completed and she stressed "they do a lot of work...this is really important...they really deserve it."

Undoubtedly, these administrators complete a sufficient amount of work, however, due to budget cuts in response to the failing economy, it seems extremely unethical to hunt down an extra \$135,000 every year just to pay for their raises.

Already classes are over-enrolled due to the hiring freeze placed on the school.

President Ashley states that if a department really needs a position to be filled, it will be, but many departments claim that funding appropriate staffing is like "pulling teeth."

#### Where are we to find this extra \$135,000 dollars?

When asked what WSC is doing to protect the faculty and students from the negative effects of the recession, President Ashley stated that they are going to "try their very best" to not let go of current faculty, to ensure class availability, and to continue student services.

However, student fees for

Fall 2009 are inevitably going to skyrocket in order to compensate for the budget cuts.

One can't help but wonder how, if we didn't spend \$135,000 on raises, the excess money would be spent in order to benefit the entire college community.

\$135,000 has the potential to fund at least two new faculty lines, boost financial aid, supply for renovations, support student services on campus such as the Academic Tutoring Center, Spanish Clinic, and Writing Center.

When asked to explain her decision, President Ashley cited that "this goes back several years" and she made the decision before the poor economy was fully recognized, before the additional 4% was ultimately allotted.

The real question at hand is how is it possible to either be ignorant of, or ignore the failing economy?

Patterns of an imminent recession were identified two years ago in the decline of property values, major businesses, bankruptcies, and the Wall Street collapse.

Not knowing about the recession, or rather claiming to not know, is not an excuse.

No one in this economy should be getting a 15% raise.

Given the injustice and the blatant indifference exemplified by the decision to give these raises, President Ashley should fix her mistake.

We, the students, should be disgusted.

The faculty, our professors, who have guided, nurtured, and shared their knowledge with us, have been ignored.

According to Anne Falke, the faculty of some UMass campuses and community colleges have contracts for their faculty.

Why have our state college faculty been unsuccessful in negotiating a contract?

It is mind boggling that \$135,000 is being expended on raises when there have been several full-time temporary professors who, due to a lack of funding, do not have a job anymore.

It is mind boggling that \$135,000 is being expended on raises when there are urgent renovations to be made.

Incidents such as the water heater explosion in the art room on Monday, March 2, that ruined expensive equipment along with valued student artwork, could have been avoided.

It is mind boggling that \$135,000 is being expended on raises when students already are experiencing an immense decline in academic services, such as a marked decrease in the number of operating hours of tutoring centers across campus.

The question I ask the student body is, should we lie down and take this?

If our beloved faculty do not have a voice, we should stand up for them. Obviously their professional, highly intelligent, and influential voices are not being heard.

Write to the governor, request that our deserving faculty receive contracts.

We, the students, should demand that WE are the pri-

mary focus of this educational institution.

We, the students, are going to have to pay with extra fees for this raise and the budget cuts out of our very pockets.

Simultaneously, along with decreased services, we will also suffer the decline of upper level classes, cancellation of classes, the possibility of late graduation, a larger loan burden, and an increase of student to professor ratio.

It is not too late to demand that these raises be revoked.

We, the students have every right to challenge the system and this decision.

We, the students can insist that the \$135,000 that is currently used as a cushion beneath NUP salaries, be returned to us and to the areas that best serve students' interests.

In light of the current budget crises, we, the students, can demand that the salaries of NUPS revert back to fiscal year 2007 levels.

Feel free, if the revolution compels you, to write to President Ashley in regards to this situation, that was ALMOST swept under the rug.

#### IN THIS ISSUE:

Feature Story	Page 1
Dry Campus?	Page 2
Sex Column	Page 3
WSC Parking	Pages 4
A+ for Adderall	Page 6
Candid Campus	Page 8



## THE VOICES WSC Newspaper Staff

Editor-In-Chief: Jacqueline Morrill

Business Editor/  
Acting Managing Editor: Jenn Robbins

Associate Editor: Joanna Good

Sex Advice Column: Felicia Misale

Photographer: Jonothan Cox

Entertainment Editor: M. R. Brown

Staff Writers: Melissa Recore  
Hayley Colange Stefan  
Allison Domanoski  
Chrissy Kenney  
Abigail Chmielecki  
Karl Hartshorn  
Kaye Guerard  
Laura Losi  
Laura Vaillancourt  
Danielle Rurak

Advisor: Daniel Shartin

## Freedom of Speech:

# From the desk of: the Editor-In-Chief

In a speech given to his officers of the Army at Newburgh, NY on March 15th, 1783, George Washington exclaimed,

"If the freedom of speech is taken away then dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter."

In memory of G. Washington's wise words and the first Amendment of the Freedom of Speech, this issue of the Student Voice contains, editorials, reviews, exposes, and

ultimately student opinion.

We are ranting, exposing, and most of all, demanding the attention of students, faculty, and the administration of Worcester State College in hopes that our opinions will somehow change this campus.

As a disclaimer to this particular issue, I am warning readers that there may be articles printed of which you may not agree with.

Whether you are on the same page or opposite our

views, we, the Student Voice staff welcome, in fact we insist that you too, express your right to the freedom of speech.

We insist that you take this time to think, speak, and most of all, act freely.

Editor in Chief

**Jacqueline Morrill**

## WSC Campus: Dry or Dead?

Editorial  
**Chrissy Kenney**  
Staff Writer

Direct definitions of the word "dry," borrowed from Dictionary.com, include words such as indifferent, dull, and uninteresting.

Worcester State's residential area is considered all of these adjectives by some students, possibly—probably—due to the "dry campus" policy first enforced in 2004.

This school-wide law is not always obeyed; any student living in Chandler Village, Dowden, or Wayslean can hear the unmistakable ruckus of Thursday night partying each week.

But party-goers know what to do when the inevitable "Shhhhhh" sounds from the dorm's hosts. Be quiet, before the R.A.'s hear, or worse, campus police.

This fear of being "written up" drives many students off campus. Whether they are off to conquer other college campuses or the various clubs and bars located in Worcester, they prove that when college kids want to drink, they will find a way to do it.

Is travelling to unfamiliar territory to get their drink on

the safest option for students? Cab's are expensive (especially on a college student's budget), and far too often the friends as drivers students arrive with are too inebriated to drive back safely.

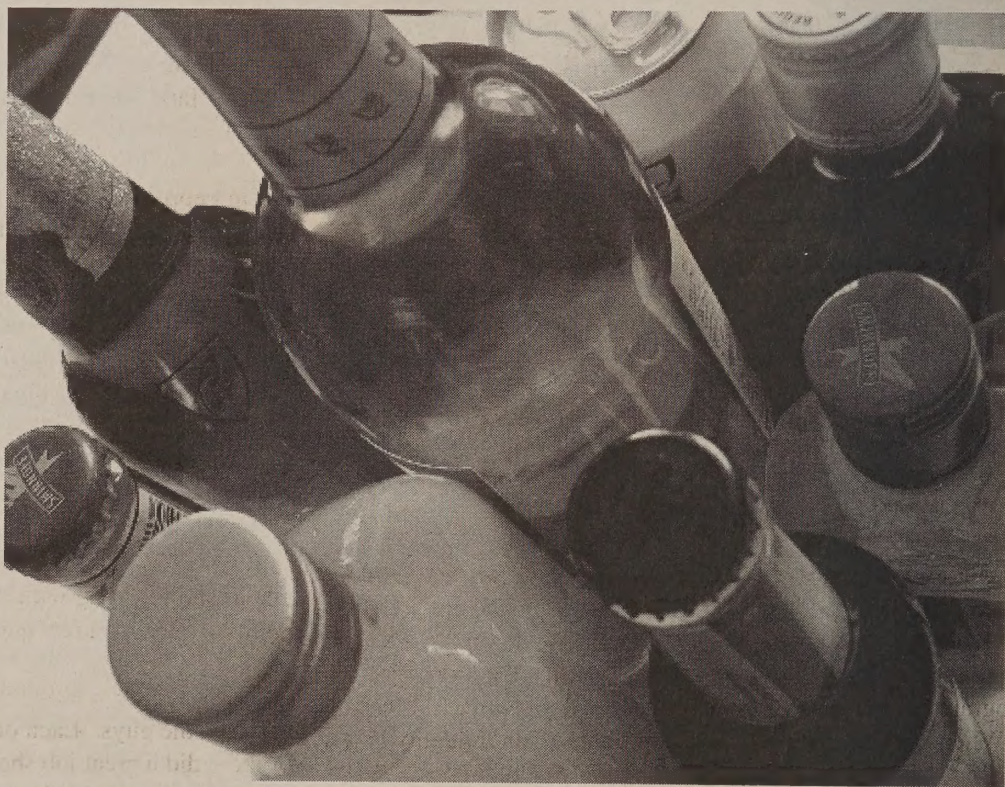
When asked about calling WSC campus police for a ride back to school, Chief Rosemary Naughton states, "We encourage the student to call the campus police on the campus they find themselves stranded on and that agency would call us at WSC to help out the student."

Naughton did not specify what students should do if they are at a club or bar, rather than another school.

Underage students will most likely feel timid to call the campus police for a ride back, for they are not supposed to be consuming alcohol in the first place.

This same fear could exist if students are in the presence of a person who is sick or hurt because of drinking.

I personally witnessed a student passed out, unresponsive due to alcohol in a hallway of Dowden. The friends of



From One Lancer Place Pub to a dry campus, how did WSC go from one extreme to the next?

this student were petrified to call for help because they did not want to get in trouble for drinking.

Luckily, an observer called the campus police anyway, and the student was taken out by ambulance, as were 13 other students during the 2007-2008 school year due to alcohol complications.

Perhaps if the dry campus restrictions were not so rigid, students would feel more comfortable calling for a safe ride back or for help if a friend is in trouble.

Most of us were raised to obey authority, however, and asking for help when one has clearly gone against a rule is a

lot harder than it sounds.

For those over 21, it has to be frustrating to be denied the right to drink or hold alcohol on campus.

Chief Naughton states, "There was a process to apply for 21 + housing in designated areas which had strict criteria."

She goes on to explain that no student in recent years has met the criteria, and the application is revoked for the coming year.

Lawfully allowed to drink or not, 21 year old students and older are not permitted to do something they may feel they have been waiting forever to be allowed to do,

Of course, I am not suggesting that students that are underage should start drinking to "stick it to the man."

The law is the law, and the consequences that ensue with underage drinking are in no way at the fault of our campus police. I am merely questioning the benefits of the rigid dry campus policy. Is it helping or hurting students? Many college students will consume alcohol throughout their time at school, be it on or off campus. But this dry or die attitude put forth by our authorities is an intimidating cloud over the inevitable. Is it making our campus safer or just plain dead?



# *these are the Student Voices.*

## Let's Talk About Sex, WSC!

Advice  
**Felicia Misale**  
V. P. Pride Alliance

Dear Felicia,

I recently started fooling around with someone new. They're into role-playing and like when I get rough with them.

I've been in control before in bed but never to this extent. The person asks me to slap them and choke them but I'm really afraid that I will hurt them and I don't know how serious they are.

I'm not sure if I will like it but I'm intrigued by it. What should I do?

Anonymous, 20

Dear Anonymous,

One of the most important parts of role-playing is making sure you and your partner speak about the topic before you get down to business.

For instance, if they enjoy being in a submissive role, you must ask where boundaries begin and end before you engage in intercourse.

This way, the act itself is not interrupted, but all parties involved remain safe and at ease. Another way to ensure wellbeing without "breaking character" is to establish a

"safe word" that can be used to indicate that you or your partner are no longer comfortable.

The best words to use are usually obscure and would be recognized as out of place in the act. Just make sure it's a word you will both remember!

Alongside keeping an open dialogue, if you're worried about hurting the other person you may find it beneficial to begin by inflicting less pain at first and "testing the waters."

Speaking in terms of sadomasochism, most masoch-

ists enjoy the "slapping" or "choking" because it hurts; it is up to you to decide whether or not you enjoy taking the role of the sadist with your partner.

A warning I will give, however, is that erotic asphyxiation (cutting off oxygen flow to the brain for sexual stimulation by various means including choking) is a very dangerous practice and can result in death.

You may want to find other, less risky ways to dominate your partner while still having fun.

Experimenting in role-playing can be an amusing way to keep things interesting in the bedroom.

Be sure to use protection every time and listen to your partner's requests while staying in your own comfort zone.

Best of luck!

Felicia Misale

Email questions to  
Fmisale@worchester.edu

## "An Affair to Remember" or maybe not?

Editorial  
**Kaye Guerard**  
Staff Writer

Recently, I've been hearing the same reoccurring radio ad on my morning commute to Worcester State.

This ad seemingly airs every fifteen minutes with a languid violin solo playing in the background that annoyingly cuts into my morning program every time I hear it.

When I unfortunately do happen to hear this radio ad, I find myself contemplating over its contents and the message it alludes to.

These ads are for the online service known as "Ashley Madison.com," an agency that has been around since 2001.

The website offers a "100% guaranteed affair to remember" to people looking to sign up for a "discreet online dating service."

The site's main purpose is to offer an online premise where men and women, who are currently in unhappy committed relationships, can connect with other involved men and women who are seeking to engage in a "discreet affair."

So why has this been nagging me?

Initially, the idea that this website offers people a forum in which they can have an online relationship with some-

one who may or may not be married, or already involved in a relationship, is definitely controversial.

Is our society so unhappy that a website was inceptioned to rescue those who are prepared to perhaps cheat?

Secondly, the fact there is a service that offers a "100% guarantee," on infidelity is thought provoking.

Perhaps those satisfied customers of Ashley Madison.com are fulfilled in the service, but at what possible cost?

As a result of a possible online affair, a pricey divorce, loss of a home, or significant child support payments could result.

With over 3 million members "Ashley Madison.com" seems to be booming in a slumped economy. Its members are guaranteed to be discovering what they are looking for considering the success of the website. Married, committed, or single, Ashley Madison.com is certainly innovative in its nature for those who choose to sign up. For those who feel a little perturbed about it, it sure does give you something to ponder about, I know I have.

## Mr. Woo State, what a joke!

Editorial  
**Jenn Robbins**  
Acting Managing Editor/Business Manager

On February 23, 2009, Worcester State found itself a new male representative, known to the campus community as Mr. Woo State.

Five WSC men competed against each other for the title of Mr. Woo State.

Each one was expected to complete various tasks ranging from sporting some school spirit wear, to showing a little talent, and finishing with their ability to answer a few questions.

It was a close competition between the guys. Each one of them did a great job showing their school pride in their spirit-wear, but when it came to their talents the true Mr.

Woo State began to stand out among the rest.

Andrew Babineau kept us at the edge of our seats as he attempted (and succeeded) to complete a rubiks cube in under three minutes.

Joey Bianchi charmed the audience with his musical abilities by playing his home-made drums.

Mike Berard had the crowd laughing at his irresistible pick-up lines, followed by Ricky Corbett's unique performance, a ribbon dance to "Chariots of Fire".

Seth Pitts (S.P.) wooed the ladies by doing some one-handed push-ups. All of this coming to a close with Chris

Hoey, who enlightened us with his light saber skills.

In the end, two men came out on top; Ricky Corbett and S.P.

There was only one fair way to determine who would win first place, and that was to tell the best joke.

Decided by a coin toss, S.P. went first. Seeming a little taken-back by the request for a joke on the spot, he paced around the stage for a few minutes thinking of the perfect joke.

Eventually, he came out with a hilarious joke that left most of the crowd in tears.

After gaining a roaring applause, S.P. stepped back and allowed Ricky the stage. Ricky confidently stepped up to the microphone, told a short-but-raunchy joke, and then quickly exited.

Although both guys showed their school spirit, unique talents, and devilishly handsome looks, only one could be crowned the winner.

After much deliberation, the judges decided that the man who had all of the qualities necessary to be Mr. Woo State was S.P.

Thanks to all of the participants in the contest, you provided the campus community with a very entertaining show!





13 Tales to  
Grab Your  
Attention

Review  
Hayley Colange Stefan  
Staff Writer

I will be the first to admit that I judge a book by its cover.

To me, it is like window-shopping; the first thing that draws me into a store is its window display.

Of course, there are always going to be books that contradict this rule. We read some and love them on the suggestions of our friends (even though the authors should probably fire their publishers), and others just cannot live up to their clever covers.

Though I'm not sure what about the cover first drew me in, I was afraid that The Thirteenth Tale would be one of these letdowns.

I skulked around bookshelves for weeks, giving it the once-over before the matter finally was taken out of my hands and I received the book as a gift.

Diane Setterfield's debut novel dragged me on a mysterious trip into the past of two writers, one who has specialized in fabricating her youth, another who spends her quiet life cataloging the forgotten lives of the unimportant.

When Margaret Lea receives a message from the infamous fiction novelist Vida Winter asking the former to write her biography, she thinks there has been a mistake.

Margaret has never read one of Ms. Winter's popular novels, and her work in her father's out-of-print and collectible bookshop does not concern any of her books.

After doing some research, Margaret finds various interviews with Ms. Winter, each giving a different history.

She was a runaway French girl, no- an orphan in Switzerland, or a little girl raised in India away from her Scottish parents.

At the end of the novel, the truth about both women's lives is both unexpected and thrilling.

The Thirteenth Tale kept me ravenously turning pages until the end, when I was quickly depressed that there were none left.

If you're like me and find yourself guessing the outcome to a story before it's half through, more than likely you won't figure out Ms. Winter's true identity until its drawn out in front of you.

Worcester State Loves (i)

Review  
Jenn Robbins  
Acting Managing Editor/Business Manager

With the help of Res. Life and Lisa MacGillivray (Director), more than a dozen girls on campus decided to give their lips a voice through the production The Vagina Monologues.

The show opened Friday, March 6, and closed the following night. Both of these shows were sold out well before the weekend, already proving to be a huge success.

All of the proceeds from the ticket, t-shirt, and baked goods sales went to the non-profit human service agency,

"New Hope."

The show was composed of 18 monologues, performed by women of the WSC student body.

Each one told an individual story of a woman and her vagina.

Some were happy, others were hysterical, and a few took the audience places that they never wanted to go.

One story in particular, performed by Kim Cosenza entitled "The Woman Who Loved to Make Vagina's Happy," seemed to grab the

audience's attention.

Her enthusiasm, along with her leather pants and whip, frightened and intrigued the audience at the same time.

Looking around the room there were some women who were a little bit embarrassed by what was being performed in front of them, while others sat wide-eyed waiting for the next snap of her whip.

Unfortunately, the majority of the WSC campus was unable to attend this production because of the limited number of tickets and there only being

two shows.

Hopefully this production will be seen on this campus again very soon, allowing more of the students a chance to step outside their comfort zones and join the rest of us in chanting "c-u-..." well, you get the idea, your "down-theres," your "coochie snorch-er," your "lower Deka".

Worcester State Parking, how do I hate thee? Let me count the ways.

Editorial  
Jonathan Cox  
Staff Writer/Photographer

Speaking as a relative newcomer to this school, I can already say that there are things about this place that I really like.

I enjoy my classes and like my professors.

The food is edible most of the time, and occasionally... better than edible.

I like my apartment in Chandler, and the people who live there as well.

Now that's all well and good, but to put it mildly there is something about this place that makes me want to punch babies while taking the Lord's name in vain.

I am referring, of course, to the all-but-wonderful Parking Regulations.



Parking on WSC has never looked *this* easy.

This is only my second semester here, and my first living on campus, and already I have overheard countless people complaining about tickets.

I myself was ticketed twice because people in the Res-Life Office told me the wrong thing and neglected important details.

I also cherish dearly the memory of getting my car registered to park here in the first place.

Add to that the highway robbery price for the decal (\$220 annually for Residents and \$120 annually for Commuters) and the insultingly childlike rules for overnight

guests, and you have yourself a parking system that has some obvious and unsettling flaws at its core.

Now, I harbor no foolish hope that a bitterly written article in the school paper is going to bring about any sort of change.

However, I have taken it upon myself to come up with what is, in my opinion anyways, a much better parking system.

First of all, and possibly most importantly, parking should be included with tuition and the other fees we already pay.

That way, all you have to do is give them your school

ID and car registration, they assign you parking based on whether you commute or live on campus, and you don't pay an extra dime.

Second, there ought to be no distinction between the resident decals.

By that I mean if you have a resident decal, you should be able to park either in the upper garage or the resident lots without being ticketed.

It's the same price for either decal, so why not just make the upper area first come, first serve?

Nextly, guests should still sign in at night, but you ought to be allowed have the same guest over as long as you

want and however often you want.

And finally, parking should be open on campus from 6pm-7am weekdays and all day on weekends so we don't have to jump through hoops to prevent our friends and family from being ticketed.

That is all I have to say about that, so in closing, for shame, WSC, for shame.



# Dangerous Inconsistencies

Response/Editorial  
**Karl Hartshorn**  
Staff Writer

The current economic climate has once again made popular the lost sport of attacking those who hold power and make oodles of money.

Corporate CEOs, congress-people, and day traders all risk a public smear campaign for even the slightest overindulgences these days.

If the economic trend continues, the phenomenon may reach proportions not seen since the sixties, right before that generation we all know and love sold their dope and invested the proceeds in market futures.

The article written by Laura Losi in this issue of the Stu-

dent Voice does not fall under this category.

The article does attack the overpaid administration of the school and question the decisions that have been made regarding faculty contracts and spending but it is done, not in contrast to and rejection of administration, but with their consent.

President Ashley has stated in the past, "our students deserve and properly demand the highest quality education."

The incendiary article printed in this issue complies entirely with the wishes of the President of the College.

It "demands the highest quality education" regardless of economic conditions.

We realize that the enormous pay increases to certain administrators only brought them to equality with their peers in similar positions at other state colleges.

We recognize that their selfless commitment to "the highest quality education" means that they would be the first to have a salary freeze instead of raises if the economy ever falters.

On the matter of faculty pay raises, President Ashley, writing in 2004, highlights the fact that "the failure to

adequately compensate our faculty also sends a powerful message to our students that their education is not that important."

Again I must agree with President Ashley that adequate compensation is a necessity.

The President, at that time, suggested, "perhaps most important of all, relatively low faculty salaries are dangerously inconsistent with the environment of excellence that our professors have been so essential in creating."

The message is again clear: dangerous inconsistencies must be avoided.

I think it demonstrates great foresight on the part of President Ashley and the Administration of Worcester State College that they recognized five years ago what is even more true today: students must demand the highest quality education possible, this education is important, the faculty that foster this education must be adequately compensated, and dangerous inconsistency must be avoided.

(Quotes taken from President Ashley's "Massachusetts Needs to Invest in Faculty at State Colleges," Telegram and Gazette, November 19, 2004)

## Worcester Consortium Art Exhibition

Review  
**Melissa Recore**  
Staff Writer

The Aurora Gallery ARTSWorcester is currently showing a collection of art created by the colleges within Worcester.

This is the fifth year such an exhibit has been open to the public. The exhibit contains several mediums ranging from the traditional oil on canvas and pencil drawings to more modern practices such as archival digital pigment print.

Every piece is unique and deserves a moment of reflection.

The pieces were judged by Susan Stoops and Antonio Fonseca, and the top three were rewarded, and a few were honorably mentioned. The first place winner was a digital print by a Nicole Rejwan.

The piece has a special quality to it which one would need to see to understand.

The second place winner was a Michael Fontaine with a charcoal on paper. The portrait

is of an elderly man's upper body with his hands gracefully raised and placed before him.

The hands of the man vividly contain such beautiful detail and expertise. The man has a mystical quality about him, intensely implying indescribable wisdom, thoughtfulness and awareness.

Charcoal is a messy medium to work with, yet brings a unique and special quality to traditional mediums.

The third place winner is a sculpture by a Emily Mele. The sculpture was mainly created by clay and formed a rodent of some sort.

The fascinating aspect of the creation was the hair which ran along it's back and in replace of claws.

Much planning and careful craftsmanship was needed in placing each of the hair follicles in the correct destination. Interesting piece.

The most intriguing of the honorable mentions was

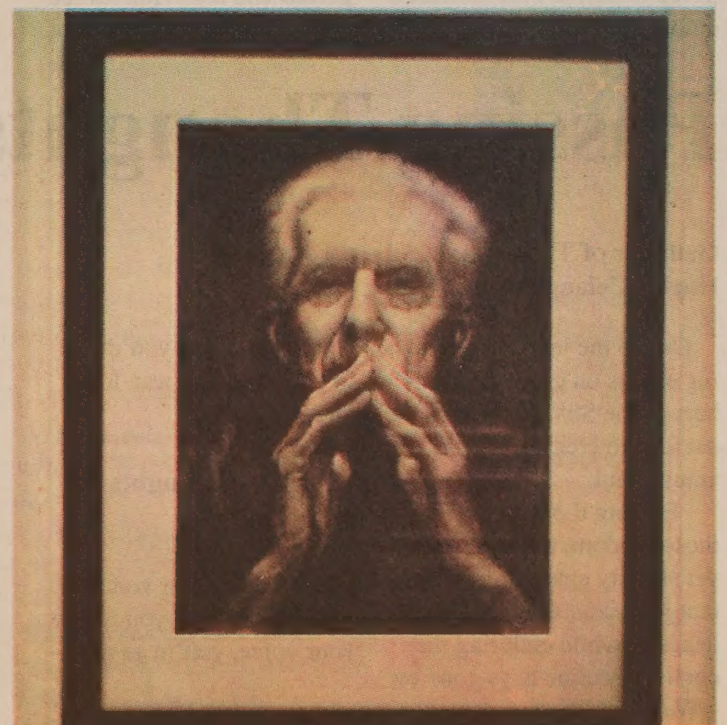
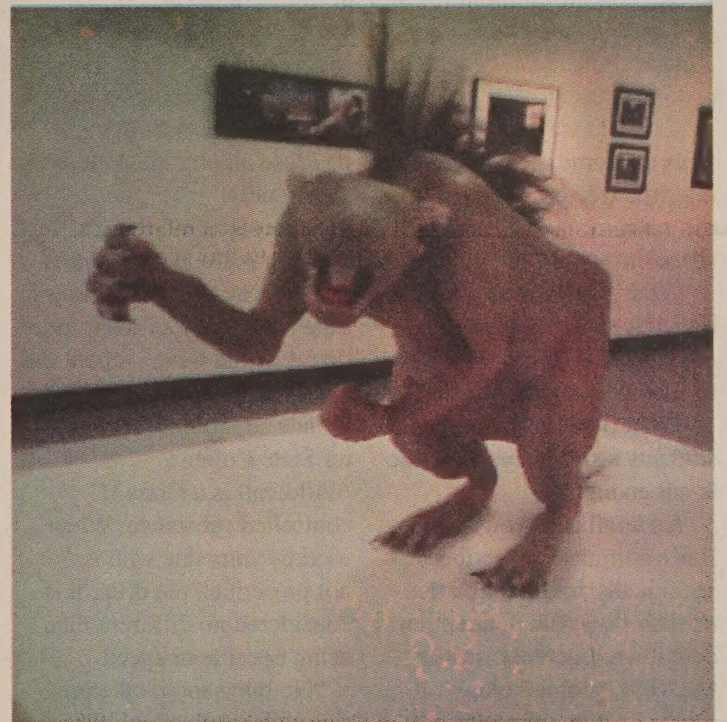
a scratchboard piece by a Rachel Slaters. Scratchboard is a unique medium, and is sometimes referred to as 'the art of taking away'.

The artist commences with a piece of black surface and scratches of the surface to reveal white underneath. It is within the scratched off white pieces where the image is created.

Scratchboard demands high skill due to the low forgiveness yield upon a mistake. Rachel Slaters scratchboard was a close up of a man.

Slaters invested a great amount of self discipline and focus to create such an image, and deserved an honorable mention for her success.

The gallery is open to the public from Feb 6th-27th. The gallery hours are Tuesday 1:00pm-4:00pm. Wednesday - Friday 10:00am - 4:00pm, Saturday 1:00pm-4:00pm. The exhibit is free.





# Potential Apocalypse Continued: Three Real Events to End the World

Melissa Recore  
Staff Writer

Everyone agrees that the world will not be around forever. Most of us envision a scenario which occurs way beyond our life time. Perhaps fighting in a galactic battle with aliens and space rangers. In reality it is much more likely that the world ends sooner rather than later. I'm not saying to take out your 401K's and party it up. But I am saying the planet is a vulnerable place and perhaps you should smell a couple more flowers. The very kind Dr. Matalka, from the biology department took some time to describe the real "end of day" scenarios, which science anticipates

as a realistic possibility. These horrible events can be broken down into three categories: cosmic events, geological events, and the unholy trinity. Cosmic events occur when material from the galaxy strike and penetrate our planet. Examples include, supernovas, comets, black holes and asteroids. The scary aspect of these events is science's inability to predict them occurring. Asteroid impact is the only event scientist can project precise probabilities. An asteroid already struck the planet 65 million years ago, around the same time

as the disappearance of the dinosaurs. Don't worry though, scientist could see an asteroid coming this time. Probabilities of all the other events are unreliable. Geological events occur when natural disasters occur consistently enough to cause a foray of forbiddingly fatal events. Earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes and volcanic eruptions. Although this sounds as though it may never happen, 290 million years ago, the greatest of all mass extinctions occurred when a series of consistent volcanic eruptions raised the climate,

killing most existing creatures. The Unholy Trinity describes the ways in which the human race will destroy itself. The trinity includes: over population, climate change and peak oil. Over population is dangerous because the planet only contains enough resources for a certain number of people. Once the number is surpassed, it is impossible to sustain the population. Climate change, which is currently occurring due to global warming, is capable of causing droughts, geological events, and raising the sea level. Peak oil, clearly occurred in 1970 in the United States.

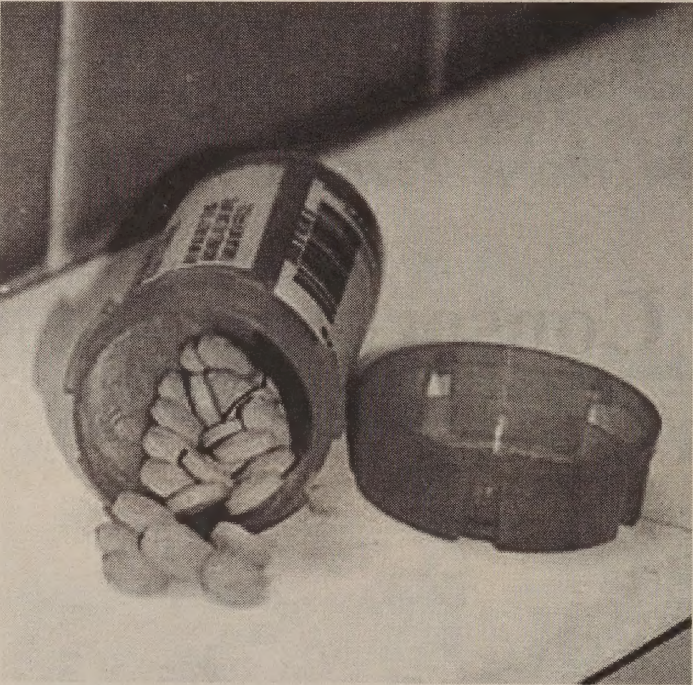
It is predicted the global oil production will peak around 2010. When the world loses its main energy source, inevitably wars will arise over remaining resources. The economic statues will become very important for the country to be able to afford the last of the resources, and to be able to find an alternate energy source. This is dangerous for the United States due to the current 12 trillion dollars of debt. We clearly cannot afford to pay the consequences of the Unholy Trinity, which many could argue has already begun.

## A+ for Adderall

Danielle Rurak  
Staff Writer

The responsibilities of a college student can be tedious and demanding. Exams, essays, and lectures consume the day, leaving little free time to escape the pressures and stresses of school. What seems like infinite amounts of work, tests ones physical and mental capability to stay alert and focused. What other options can students turn to when caffeine is not enough? Adderall use is on the rise. It is a stimulant prescribed specifically for attention deficit disorder (ADD), attention deficit hyperactive disorder (ADHD), and narcolepsy. It works by blocking certain regulating factors for chemicals such as dopamine and norepinephrine thus increased amounts of these chemicals

are created and circulated in the blood. Adderall increases energy and alertness, causing rampant use among the college community. Students admit to using the drug for recreational purposes. "It allows me to concentrate on my school work more than I would have without the aid of the drug," confesses a female sophomore at Worcester State College. Adderall is a Class II controlled substance. When used by someone who is not prescribed the drug, it is considered no different than using cocaine or speed. "No one should take prescription medication unless it is prescribed specifically for them. Doing so can be dangerous and also violates federal laws," says a Doctor of



Pharmacy who was consulted on the effects of Adderall. Increased focus comes at the expense of the abuser's health. Side effects include: insomnia, headaches, decreased appetite, increased heart rate and palpitations. These last two effects make abuse of Adderall very dangerous for anyone with pre-existing heart conditions.

Adderall abuse often leads to overuse and addiction. There is a stigma surrounded by drug users however there is no stereotypical Adderall abuser. "I know honors students that never do drugs, who will pay any amount for one pill come finals," says a male senior at Worcester State College.

It is relatively easy for students to obtain the drug. Some even argue doctors are prescribing Adderall to anyone claiming they have ADD or ADHD. Richard Sogn, MD, states "A student who gives a few Adderall tablets to a friend, or sells a few tablets from their prescription is considered the same as if they were a drug dealer on the streets." The expectations of a college student put extra weight and emphasis on nothing short of academic success. Adderall decreases fatigue and increases a student's ability to concentrate, but the risks are not worth the benefits. By increasing physical activity, cutting out foods high in sugars and fats, and taking vitamins regularly are safe alternatives to sharpen focus and stamina.

## Passing Thoughts & Randomness

Gatherer of Thoughts:  
Hayley Colange Stefan

Due to the lack of interesting events on campus, members of the Student Voice have decided to create our own amusement. Passing thoughts are those random, nonsensical yet slightly entertaining ideas that just seem to pop into our heads as while enduring the ennui of routine days gone by. We invite all students to contribute to this column, if you've got a silly question, a random idea, or perhaps just

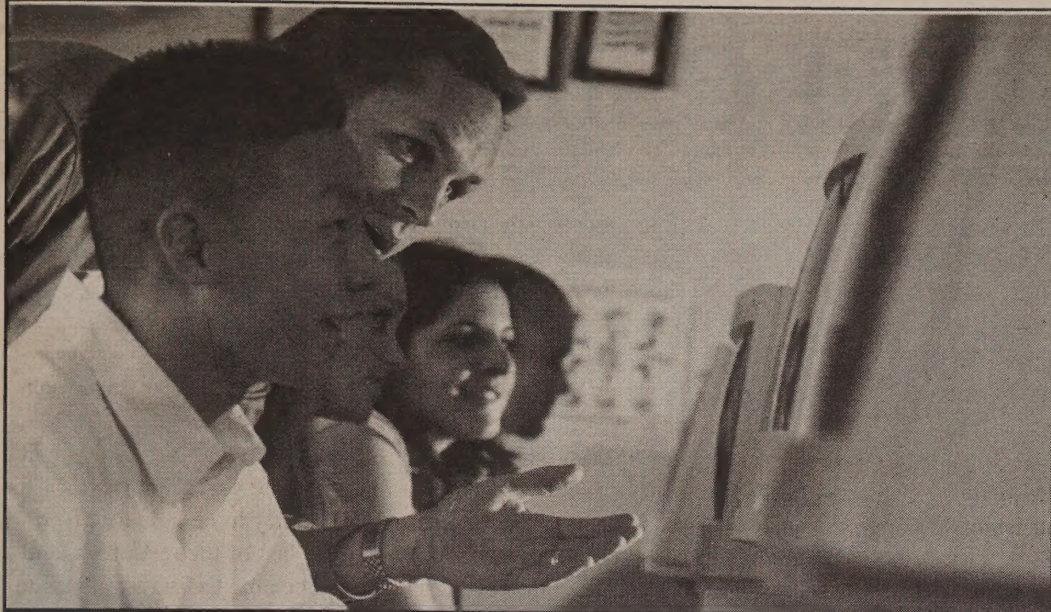
something short you'd like to get off your chest, let us know. **Passing Thoughts for March:** If you lose your voice, you're hoarse. If you refuse your voice, you're an ass. Vinyl siding is man's quest for immortality.

Why as adults is it okay for us to give inanimate objects clothing (car hoods/bonnets, book jackets, etc) but we consider it foolish when children's books have clothes-wearing animals? It a good thing that plaid is back: with the downward spiraling economy, being fashionable is one less thing that homeless people will have to worry about.

Beware the Ides of March: it is generally a wise idea to avoid any tunic-wearing men (or creepy gypsy women) regardless of the day...however, on the subject of dress-wearing males, it must be quite refreshing for the undercarriage, no? As the most important organizational method of our fast-paced lives, isn't it strange (at least) that we can

arbitrarily add or remove one whole hour from the day. It is neither peanut butter nor Barbeque chicken pancakes. Passing thoughts contributors: Karl Hartshorn Hayley Colange Stefan Laura Vaillancourt





## Considering a Teaching Career?

### Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)

Earn your master's degree and teacher's license in as few as 12 months from the School of Education.

- Full-time (12 months) and part-time (24 months) options
- Leads to licensure in elementary or secondary education
- Most classes meet evenings in Boston or online
- Special tuition rate; scholarships and financial aid available
- Classes begin July 6 and September 14, 2009

[www.education.neu.edu](http://www.education.neu.edu)  
1.877.668.7727 (toll free)

**Northeastern University**  
College of Professional Studies

April 1  
Graduate Info Session



**WPI**

WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

## Join us at our next Graduate Studies Information Session On GRAD DAY 2009

Wednesday, April 1

*From 1:00–4:00 p.m.* Come view research presentations by our current graduate students

*At 4:30 p.m.* Take a campus tour

*At 6:00 p.m.* Learn about our graduate programs in Engineering, Science, Management, and the Life Sciences

**Engineering, Science, and Management**  
at the Bartlett Center • 100 Institute Rd. • Worcester, MA

**Life Sciences**  
at the NEW Gateway Park • 60 Prescott St. • Worcester, MA

Ask about our NEW graduate programs in  
Systems Engineering and Robotics Engineering

## Register NOW to attend!

[grad.wpi.edu](http://grad.wpi.edu) • [grad@wpi.edu](mailto:grad@wpi.edu) • 508-831-5301

# The WSC Personals

### A Smidge for a Midge?

Got a thing for mini-sizes? Well try me on for size! Petite (very small) SM, glasses, and "fire-engine"-red hair looking for an attractive SF to fraternize with.

Must not own any animals with fur\* as I am extremely allergic.

I am interested in preserving old figurines, collecting postage stamps, and my toy poodle, Gerry (hairless of course!).

Please contact me via my email address TooCoolForSto

ols@Matchmaker.com.

Please not too tall (I scare easy).

No applicants over 5' 2" will be considered.

\* This includes gerbils, ferrets, and other creepy rodent-like creatures.

### Teacher's Pet

SF teacher looking for the "Principal of her dreams" to join her on romantic getaway to coastal Northern Massachusetts!

Must speak either English or Spanish and be able to read

at least at a tenth-grade level.

We will take beautiful walks on the beach to collect seashells, watch the waves, and maybe learn a little something too about aquatic life in the upper Northern Hemisphere, how exciting!

Who knows, maybe you can teach me a little something?

We will be staying close to an old colonial village, so be sure to pack your camera, because you won't want to miss this!

To be considered, please include a 2-page essay on the

importance of seashells in Colonial America- be careful: spelling and good grammar count!

Include a photo taken within at least the last three months. Sorry, no plaid allowed.

TheresAnInTeaching@aol.com

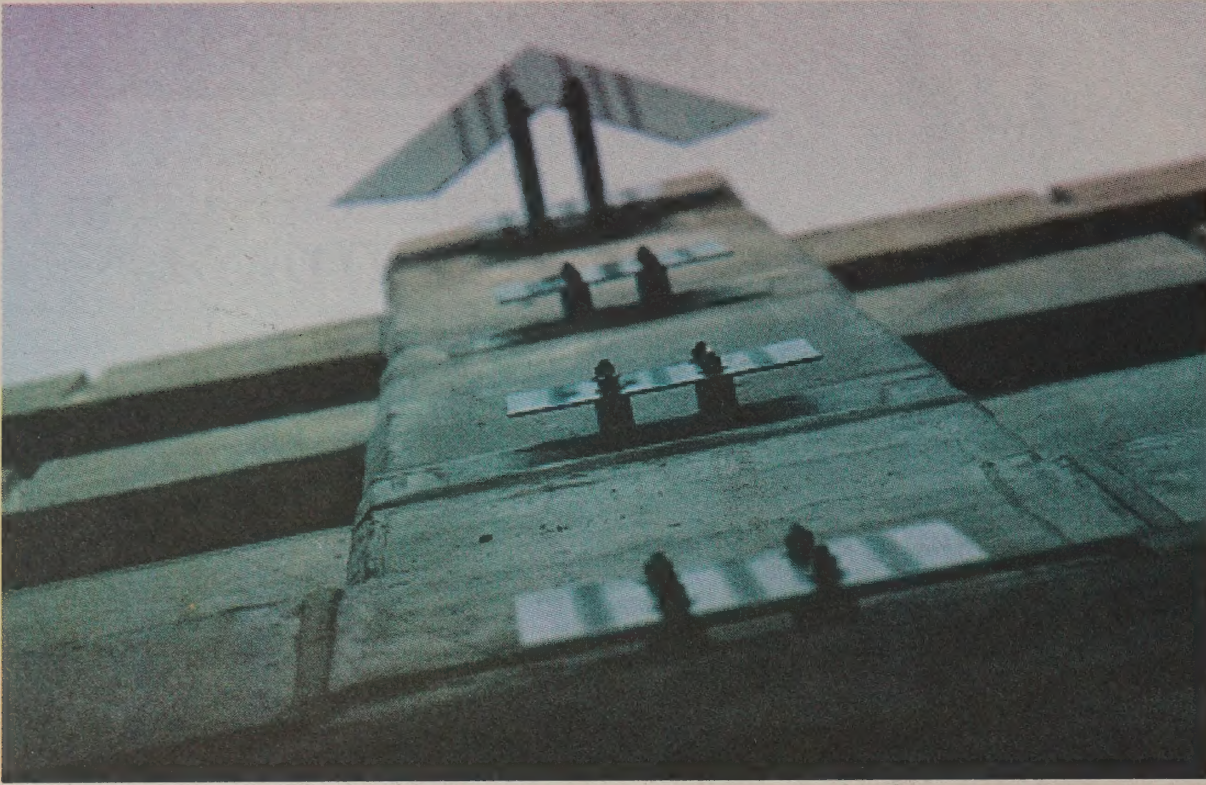
This week's personal ads were created by the imaginative mind of Hayley Colange Stefan

(Note: Again, these personal ads are completely

fictional, though, if you're single, or not, and looking, place an ad by emailing: [jmorrell@orcester.edu](mailto:jmorrell@orcester.edu) or [hstefan@worcester.edu](mailto:hstefan@worcester.edu)).



# WSC Candid Campus



All photographs taken by Photographer  
Jonathan Cox

